Claims

1. A process of cleaning a filter containing residues from filtering beverages, the residues containing water-insoluble proteins and/or polyphenols attached to the filter and polysaccharides, comprising contacting the protein and/or polyphenol containing residues with a solution containing an oxidising agent capable of oxidising proteins and/or polyphenols while minimising contact of the oxidising agent with the polysaccharides.

2. A process according to claim 1, wherein the oxidising agent is a peroxide compound or a hypohalous acid, and the oxidising agent is used in the presence of a transition metal.

3. A process according to claim 2, wherein the transition metal is manganese or iron.

4. A process according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the transition metal is complexed with a polyamine.

5. A process according to claim 2, wherein the oxidising agent is hydrogen peroxide.

6. A process according to claim 2, wherein the oxidising agent is a peracid.

7. A process according to claim 1, wherein the oxidising agent is a hypohalous acid, and the solution has a pH between 4 and 7.

8. A process according to any one of claims 1-7, wherein the filter, prior to contacting with the solution of the oxidising agent, is contacted with an alkaline solution.

9. A process according to claim 8, wherein the alkaline solution has a pH between 11 and 14.

10. A process according to any one of claims 1-7, wherein contacting with the solution of the oxidising agent is performed as a back-flush.

11. A process according to claim 10, wherein the back-flush is performed at a rate of 0.5 - 100 l of the solution per h per m^2 of filter surface.

12. A process of cleaning a filter containing residues from filtering beverages, the residues comprising water-insoluble proteins and/or polyphenols attached to the filter and polysaccharides, comprising contacting the protein and/or polyphenol containing residues with a solution containing an oxidising agent comprising a peroxide compound together with a transition metal complex.